

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01611 101626Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----110313Z 108034 /63

R 101514Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2136

S E C R E T DAMASCUS 1611

EXDIS

FOR SECRETARY FROM MURPHY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SY, XF
SUBJECT: YOUR MIDDLE EAST VISIT

REF: STATE 048334

1. I MET WITH FONMIN KHADDAM AFTERNOON MARCH 10 TO CONVEY
YOUR APPRECIATION FOR THE DISCUSSIONS YOU HAD HAD WITH
ASAD AND HIMSELF. MADE ALL THE TALKING POINTS IN PARA 2
REFTEL. (KHADDAM RETURNED DAMASCUS EVENING MARCH 9.)

2. KHADDAM INTERRUPTED PRESENTATION AT ONLY ONE POINT:
TO ASK ABOUT YOUR STATEMENT "THERE WAS A COMMON UNDERSTAND-
ING THAT THE PRINCIPAL SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES ARE THE NATURE
OF PEACE, THE WITHDRAWAL/TERRITORIAL QUESTIONS AND A SETTLE-
MENT OF THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM." DID THIS LISTING OF SUB-
STANTIVE ISSUES, HE ASKED, REPRESENT PRIORITY RANKING BY
USG OF THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED? I REPLIED THAT THE
SENTENCE WAS SIMPLY A SUMMATION OF THE COMPLEX PROBLEMS
WHICH MUST BE DEALT WITH AND CARRIED NO CONNOTATION
OF THE PRIORITY WE WERE GIVING TO ANY SINGLE PROBLEM.

3. KHADDAM EXPRESSED HIS THANKS FOR YOUR MESSAGE AND
SECRET

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PAGE 02 DAMASC 01611 101626Z

SAID HE PARTICULARLY APPRECIATED THAT YOU WERE SHARING
WITH SYRIA A SUMMATION OF YOUR OWN REPORT TO PRESIDENT
CARTER. HE ADDED, "WE HOPE OUR DIALOGUE WITH THE NEW
U.S. ADMINISTRATION WILL LEAD TO A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING
ABOUT THE NATURE OF THE AREA SITUATION, HELP DIRECT
THE AMERICAN POSITION TOWARDS WHERE JUSTICE LIES AND
REVEAL THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF ISRAEL'S CONTINUING WITH

ITS AGGRESSION."

4. I ASKED HIM IF ANY DECISION HAD BEEN REACHED ABOUT HIS OWN TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON SUGGESTED IN YOUR MARCH 1 MESSAGE (STATE 044975). HE SAID THAT HAVING RECEIVED YOUR LETTER JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR CAIRO FOR THE AFRO-ASIAN SUMMIT, HE HAD NOT HAD OPPORTUNITY IN THE RUSH OF THE SUMMIT BUSINESS TO DISCUSS THIS WITH ASAD. HE PROMISED TO DO SO AND BE BACK IN TOUCH WITH ME IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS. HE CONFIRMED HE, HIMSELF, IS COMMITTED TO ATTEND NACC FONMINS CONFERENCE IN NEW DELHI, APRIL 6-11.
MURPHY

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 10-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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